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quarters of a degree from its predicted place. This difficulty was removed by Mr. CODDINGTON, who first photographed the region with the Crocker telescope, giving an exposure of three hours. He identified the planet by means of its trail, and derived an approximate correction to the ephemeris. He next prepared charts of the faint stars shown on his photographic plates, and inserted on them the predicted places of the asteroid for the times at which we intended to observe it. This proved very successful. At the time of the first observation, I selected the planet at the first trial, and within five minutes from the time when the telescope was pointed to the proper field had it identified, by means of its motion. At the times of the other observations we found it with almost equal ease. W. J. HUSSEY.

LICK OBSERVATORY, September 13, 1898.

THE NEW MINOR PLANET, 1898 *DQ*.

The minor planet, 1898 *DQ*, discovered photographically by WITT at the Urania Observatory, Berlin, August 13th, promises to be of unusual interest. According to the preliminary elements of its orbit, computed by BERBERICH, its perihelion lies far within the orbit of *Mars*; and indeed so close does its path come to that of the Earth, that at the place of nearest approach they are separated by less than 15,000,000 miles. When nearest the Earth, the planet's equatorial horizontal parallax is about a minute of arc, exceeding that of any other known body whose position can be measured with the same degree of accuracy. On this account, it will be an excellent object by means of which to determine the solar parallax, and thence the mean distance of the Earth from the Sun. W. J. HUSSEY.

LICK OBSERVATORY, September 27, 1898.

DISCOVERY AND ORBIT OF COMET *h* 1898 (PERRINE).

This comet was discovered in the morning of September 13th. This is the eighth comet to be discovered this year, five being unexpected. The comet's position on the morning of discovery at 0^h 58^m 8^s G. M. T. of Sept. 13th, was α 9^h 35^m 49^s.27, δ + 31° 4' 31".0. The comet was then between the two constellations *Leo*, *Major* and *Minor*, and was moving east 6^m per day and south 30'. Its daily motion is rapidly increasing in both co-ordinates, and thus gaining on the Sun at such a rate that it will probably be lost in the dawn early in October. At the time of discovery, it had a